SAKI TSUKAHARA

TOKYOPOP

REPLAY

KIBZ COMICS LYNX COLLECTION

CONTENTS

REPLAY

presented by
SAKI TSUKAHARA

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1st inning

REPLAY

IT'S A WALK-OFF HOMERUN THAT'S TURNED THIS GAME AROUND!

WOOOOT!

WAAAAH!

IT'S IN!

...THE WHITE BALL CUT HIGH THROUGH THE SKY AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE BATTER'S EYE.

ZSH

WOOOOOT!

AND WITH IT ENDED OUR SUMMER.

HUP!

KNOCK THAT OFF, MIZUHARA!

TODAY'S THE DAY I NAB HIM AND MAKE HIM PLAY CATCH WITH ME!

DAMN THAT RITSU. EVER SINCE WE RETIRED FROM THE BASEBALL CLUB, HE'S SUDDENLY GOTTEN SO DISTANT...

*THE COLLECTIVE UNIT OF A CATCHER AND A PITCHER

THAT'S WHERE I MET RITSU...

I'VE PLAYED BASEBALL SINCE AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER.

ON DAYS I DIDN'T HAVE SCHOOL, MY DAD WOULD TAKE ME TO PLAY BY THE RIVER UNTIL SUNSET.

RITSUUUUU!

AND AFTER EVENTUALLY FORMING A BATTERY* WITH HIM..

WE'VE BEEN LIKE A MARRIED COUPLE EVER SINCE.

PREFECTURAL OSHI EAST

3-5

RIRI! ♡

HUH?

WHERE'S MY RIRI?

RITSUUUU!

LET'S GO HOME!

-5

DID YOU TWO HAVE A MARITAL DISPUTE NOW THAT YOU'RE BOTH RETIRED?

TCH. YEAH, RIGHT.

YO, MIZU-HARA.

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MASHINO, HE JUST LEFT.

AGAIN? I'M ALWAYS TELLING HIM TO WAIT FOR ME.

BASEBALL ENDS IN HIGH SCHOOL.

WE'RE FRIENDS.

AAARGH! EVER SINCE WE RETIRED FROM THE SPORT, YOU'VE BEEN NO FUN TO HANG OUT WITH! WE'RE A MARRIED COUPLE, REMEMBER?

...

WHEN IT COMES TO BASEBALL, SURE.

AFTER RITSU STOPPED PLAYING BASEBALL, HE SHIFTED RIGHT INTO ENTRANCE EXAM MODE.

SINCE I'M NOT AS SERIOUS ABOUT IT AS HE IS, THIS IS HOW HE'S BEEN ACTING TOWARD ME.

JEEZ... SORRY.

I'M NOT AS GOOD AT SWITCHING GEARS AS YOU.

OF COURSE... I WANT US TO GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE TOO.

BUT SINCE HE'S APPLYING TO THE SAME COLLEGE I AM, S UNIVERSITY, I GUESS HE'S WORRIED.

WITH THE KINDS OF GRADES RITSU GETS, HE COULD GO TO AN EVEN BETTER COLLEGE.

...

I KNOW YOU'RE A SLOW STARTER, BUT GET TO WORK ALREADY.

I KNOW. I WILL, I PROMISE.

I'LL AT LEAST CRACK OPEN MY NOTEBOOK WHEN I GET HOME.

I'M GOING TO CRAM SCHOOL.

I'VE GOT STUFF TO DO TODAY.

AND DON'T CLING TO ME. IT'S TOO HOT.

AAAW! AGAIN?! WE HAVE CRAM SCHOOL TODAY.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WHAT THE HECK? DON'T IGNORE ME!

WHY DON'T WE THROW THE BALL AROUND BY THE RIVER WHILE WE'RE AT IT?

WHAT ELSE? TO WALK HOME TOGETHER.

SNUB 7° 1

OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.

YOU KNOW? ♡

I KNOW.

BUT I'M THE TYPE WHO CAN'T SHOW MY TRUE ABILITIES UNTIL I'M FORCED TO.

JUST A LITTLE, GRANTED.

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU LATELY? WHAT'S THIS STUFF YOU HAVE TO DO THAT YOU KEEP SNEAKING HOME FOR?

I'M NOT SNEAKING ANYWHERE, AND IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL.

YOU'VE GOT YOUR MOCK EXAMS COMING UP TOO, YUTA. YOU SHOULD BE FOCUSING ON STUDYING.

YAY!

IT'LL BE JUST THE BREATHER YOU NEED.

BUT, IN THE MEANWHILE, YOU KEEP STUDYING!

IN THAT CASE, SINCE SUMMER BREAK'S COMING UP, HELP ME WITH THE TRAINING CAMP I'M PUTTING ON.

I WAS THINKING OF RECRUITING ALUMNI TO HELP ME OUT ANYWAY.

REALLY?

"MORNING."

COACH! YOUR LECKSUS THAT HAS 100K+ KILOMETERS ON IT IS SPARKLING TODAY TOO!

SQUEAK

SQUEAK

OOH, HE'S POLISHING IT AGAIN TODAY.

WHAT HAPPENED TO CRACKING OPEN YOUR NOTEBOOK?

IS IT OKAY IF WE POP IN TO SEE HOW PRACTICE IS GOING NOW?

MIZUHARA.

PUT A SOCK IN IT.

OKAY! IT'S A DRIVE DATE WITH MEAL INCLUDED THEN!

LOVE YA, SATOSHI!

SATOSHI FURUYA

WOW, A TRAINING CAMP.

SHOO SHOO

ENTRANCE EXAM STUDENTS SHOULD GO STRAIGHT HOME TO STUDY.

MASHINO, CHECK OUT THAT SCARY FACE HE'S MAKING.

GLOM

UGH, ALL RIGHT ALREADY!

...

MASHINO WON'T PLAY WITH ME EITHER!

GLOM

YOW!

NOT YOU TOO, COACH!!

I'LL BE FINE.
THE COACH'LL BE THERE.
SAY "AHHH!" ♥
YEAH, I GUESS.
WHENEVER YOU GET AMPED UP, YOU DON'T WATCH WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND YOU, YUTA.
WHERE'S MASHINO?
HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO EAT AND THEN HEAD TO THE LIBRARY.
TO STUDY? MAN, HE'S WORKING HARD.
IS IT JUST ME OR HAS HE CHANGED?
HE'S BEEN SO ANTISOCIAL LATELY.
YEAH?
MASHINO'S ALWAYS BEEN SERIOUS. IT'S JUST HIS NATURE.
NOT TO MENTION HE'S TAKING ENTRANCE EXAMS.
SINCE HE'S A CATCHER, HE HAS A TENDENCY TO KEEP A POKER FACE.
HUH? "THAT"?
YOU WANT ANY?
I'M FINE.
SO THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE REALLY AFTER THEN, IS IT?
I'LL HAVE ONE ICE POP, PLEASE.
HE'LL BE TAKING ME OUT IN HIS CAR AND FEEDING ME TOO! ♥
I CAN'T WAIT!
THANKS AS ALWAYS.
JINGLE JINGLE
!!
WHOA.
...
WHAT WAS THAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
THAT WAS CLOSE.
SHOVE
?
YOU DON'T WANT TO THROW YOUR SHOULDER OUT.
DON'T GET TOO EXCITED.

UH...

IS IT?!

DUDE, COME ON.

HE'S PRETTY POPULAR WITHOUT EVEN TRYING.

USUALLY, THAT'S THE FIRST THING TO SUSPECT.

LOOK... IT DOESN'T MATTER.

WHY WOULD HE NEED TO HIDE THAT FROM ME?

RITSU? HAVING A GIRLFRIEND?!

LET'S SAY HE DOES HAVE A GIRLFRIEND.

THEN MAYBE IT'S AN ILLICIT RELATION-SHIP.

WOW!

OR AUSTRALO-PITHECUS?

WHAT, LIKE LUCY?!

WHAT IF IT'S WITH A CELEBRITY?

HEY!

OR A CAVE-WOMAN?

OR AN ALIEN?!

THAT'D BE WILD.

HMMM

OH!

RIGHT?!

IF IT WERE ME, I'D FLAUNT IT.

I DON'T HAVE ANY CRUSHES.

WHAT IF IT'S THE SAME GIRL YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON?!

RITSU WOULD NEVER THINK THAT!

YEAH.

DON'T SAY THAT...

MAYBE HE'S TIRED OF YOU.

YOU GUYS HAVE BEEN TOGETHER FOR SO LONG...

YOU GUYS YOU DON'T FEEL THAT WAY JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE BOTH DONE WITH BASE-BALL?

DATING WAS PROHIBITED WHILE IN THE BASEBALL CLUB.

THEN...

MAYBE IT'S A GIRL.

WHAT?!

IS HE IN SHOCK THAT MASHINO BEAT HIM TO IT?

I HADN'T CONSIDERED THAT.

AT LONG LAST, THE COUPLE IS BREAK-ING UP.

HIS PROCES-SOR HAS SUFFERED A GLITCH...

HE FROZE

TWEEEEEET

IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN...

I--

WATCH OUT!

MIZU-HARA!

YUTAAAA! BEHIND YOU! BEHIND YOU!!

YEAH!

I'LL JUST CHEER HIM ON THE BEST I CAN!

...

3-5

RATTLE

RITSUUU!

LEND ME YOUR GYM UNIFORM.

SHOOT, I FORGOT MY GYM CLOTHES.

I'D NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT RITSU HAVING A GIRL-FRIEND.

HA HA!

HA

HA

AND RITSU HAS SOMEONE HE LIKES?

OKAY.

WHAT IF THEY WERE RIGHT...

I'LL BE USING IT SIXTH PERIOD.

IT'S IN MY LOCKER.

RATTLE

IT'S JUST A CASE OF BASEBALL DEFICIENCY

CAN COME FOR PITCHING DRILLS?

THAT HURT, COACH.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? I CAN'T IMAGINE YOU'VE BEEN OVERDOING IT ON THE STUDYING...

EXCUSE ME.

RITSU.

RIGHT

JUST GET BACK INTO YOUR UNIFORM. YOU DON'T WANT TO CATCH COLD.

IT'S FINE.

BROUGHT MIZUHARA HIS UNIFORM.

THANKS, RITSU. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO RETURN YOUR SHIRT WHEN REALIZED I GOT BLOOD ON IT

YEAH, I THINK I'LL BE OKAY NOW.

HAS THE BLEEDING STOPPED?

I HAVE TO GIVE THIS BACK TO MASHINO.

AH!

MASHINO

UH-OH. HE SAID HE HAS GYM SIXTH PERIOD.

WHOA, GOT IT HERE, TOO.

NURSE'S OFFICE

STING

YOU OUGHT TO TAKE THAT OFF AND WASH IT QUICK.

I'LL LOOK FOR A SPARE SET FOR MASHINO.

MY BRAIN STOPPED WORKING FOR A MINUTE THERE.

YEAH, I DON'T KNOW EITHER.

YOUR REFLEXES ARE USUALLY MUCH BETTER THAN THAT WHAT'S GOING ON?

YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING LEFT SO TAKE CARE OF YOUR FACE.

IF YOU TOOK AWAY BASEBALL AND YOUR FACE..

...

BLIB

KEEP THAT ICE ON IT A LITTLE LONGER

THAT'S OFFENSIVE

I'M GOING TO THE COACH'S OFFICE NOW.

OKAY

IT WAS ONLY A NOSE-BLEED? NO INJURIES?

UH-OH. IS HE MAD AT ME?

OKAY.

THUD

GET BACK TO CLASS ONCE YOU'RE DONE CHANGING, MIZUHARA.

MASHINO, STOP BY MY OFFICE FOR A SPARE UNIFORM

BE CAREFUL.

RITSU'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A NAG WHEN IT COMES TO INJURIES.

UH NOPE

CUT THE INSIDE OF MY MOUTH A LITTLE, BUT IT'S TOTALLY FINE.

ANY TIME'S FINE TODAY'S MY LAST DAY OF GYM ANYWAY

SSSHHH

THAT'S RIGHT! TODAY WAS MY CLASS'S LAST DAY TOO.

SORRY, RITSU.

I'LL WASH YOUR UNIFORM AND RETURN IT TO YOU TOMORROW

2nd inning

REPLAY

I'LL DO IT!!

"I'LL PLAY PITCHER!

WOW!

DARN FOURTH GRADERS!"

CLENCH

HEY.

ALL RIGHT! LET'S PLAY SOME BALL!

THAT GLOVE'S A TOY. DON'T WASTE OUR TIME.

HMPH

I'M NOT A SHORTY!

NO WAY!

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO PLAY IN THE OUTFIELD, THEN GET LOST, SHORTY!

USUALLY, HE'D HAVE GIVEN ME A LONGER LECTURE.

BUZZZ

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING THROUGH RITSU'S HEAD, THESE DAYS.

BUZZZZ

BUZZ

BUZZ

MASHINO

ON THE FIELD, WE UNDERSTOOD EVERY FACET ABOUT EACH OTHER. BUT NOW...

GOOD.

NICE CATCH.

BEEP BEEP BEEP

THE STARS CAME RIGHT OUT DON'T FORGET TO GIVE THEM BACK TO RITSU WHEN YOU

THE ONLY TIME I'LL BE SEEING HIM IS AT CRAM SCHOOL

I'M GOING BACK TO SLEEP

I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO ANYWAY.

I'M DONE WITH BASEBALL.

FWUMP

IF YOU TOOK AWAY BASEBALL AND YOUR FACE, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING LEFT.

MAYBE IT'S A GIRL.

MASHINO

I GUESS THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RETIRE FROM A SPORT

PAP

WE USED TO NEVER HAVE DAYS WHERE WE DIDN'T SEE EACH OTHER.

JUST A LITTLE LONGER UNTIL THE TRAINING CAMP. HANG IN THERE!

TRAINING CAMP!

EVERY DAY'S BEEN HELLISH, AS I OPEN UP MY WORKBOOK STARTING IN THE AFTERNOON.

CREAK

RITSU NEVER STOPPED BEING COLD TOWARD ME. AND NOW IT'S SUMMER BREAK.

HUH?

BUT SINCE I GET DISTRACTED AT HOME, I WAS STUDYING IN YOUR ROOM UNTIL TRAIN SCHOOL STARTS.

I THOUGHT I'D TAKE MY STUDIES SERIOUSLY

I ALSO BROUGHT YOUR GYM CLOTHES.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, YUTA?

HEY, I'M BA— HUH?

WHERE'S MY MOM?

OH WELL.

GUESS I'LL GO STUDY ENGLISH.

YEAH, RIGHT

YOUR MADRE LEFT TO HAVE TEA AT MY PLACE JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO.

I WAS ALREADY FED DINNER

AND THERE'S A PORTION FOR YOU TOO, RITSU.

DID YOU EAT SOMETHING WEIRD? WHAT'S GOING ON?

NO!

ONCE AGAIN, TALKING ABOUT GIRLS...

SHE

SHE PLAYS.

LET'S SEE.

RITSU'S BEEN TOLD BY A LOT OF GIRLS THAT THEY LIKE HIM, BUT...

SO FAR, HE'S NEVER HAD ANYONE YOU COULD CALL HIS GIRLFRIEND.

AND IF I HE DID GET A GIRLFRIEND, HE'D DEFINITELY TELL ME.

AAAARGH! I CAN'T FOCUS!

YOU'RE LATE COMING HOME.

RIGHT

WOULD YOU RATHER BATHE FIRST? ♥

AH!

OR WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE ME FIRST? ♥

"I... WARM UP THE MISO SOUP.

GO GARGLE AND WASH YOUR HANDS.

BRUSH

2 D.

IT'S SO WEIRD.

EVEN THOUGH WE USE THE EXACT SAME MISO AS YOUR HOME, IT DOESN'T TASTE THE SAME AT ALL.

MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE WE MAKE THE STOCK FROM DRIED BONITO SHAVINGS?

WHERE'S ALL THE FIXINGS?

YEAH.

AND IF I ASK RITSU HE'LL PROBABLY JUST TELL ME "IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL."

DO YOU LIKE HOW IT TASTES?

YOU DO TOO.

WE PUT IN WHOLE FISH S NCE THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD FOR YOUR BONES.

I'M OVERTHINKING THIS WHOLE GIRLFRIEND THING.

TIMES LIKE THIS, RITSU'S NO DIFFERENT FROM USUAL.

YOU MEAN YOU'D COPY MY NOTE-BOOKS.

BACK IN THE DAY. WHEN IT WAS SUMMER VACATION, WE'D SLEEP OVER AT EACH OTHER'S HOUSES AND DO HOMEWORK. YOU REMEMBER?

OH DRIED SARDINES

I MEAN DRIED SARDINES.

MIZUHARA FAMILY MISO

WAKE

ZOOP

!!

!!!

SNACK

FOOD!

THE TRUTH IS...

I HAD WANTED TO ASK RITSU'S MOM WHERE HE KEEPS GOING, BUT IN THE END, I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO.

SCRAM IT WILL BE MISO SOUP WITHOUT ANY FIXINGS!

WHAT IF THAT HAD HIT ME IN THE NOSE? BE MORE CAREFUL

MUTTER

I CAN'T HELP IT SEEING YOUR FACE MAKES ME WANTS TO PLAY BASEBALL, RITSU.

MUTTER

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID BASEBALL AND MY FACE ARE ALL I HAVE.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE GOING TO COLLEGE TO PLAY BASEBALL.

RITSU

WHY ARE YOU BRINGING THAT UP ALL OF A SUDDEN?

YOU FEELING DISCOURAGED?

IT'S NOT THAT

JUST A FEW QUESTIONS

COLLECTING

YOU'RE SMART, SO YOU COULD GO TO A HIGHER LEVEL SCHOOL.

I'M FINE

WHY DON'T YOU TAKE THAT UPSTAIRS? I'M SURE YOU CAN'T CONCENTRATED HERE AT THE TABLE.

OH, I SEE NOW.

YOU SOLVE THAT AFTER MULTIPLYING EVERYTH NG BY FOUR

THAT WAY, WHEN YOU SQUARE A - 2, IT EQUALS ZERO.

YOU'LL FEEL LONELY EATING BY YOURSELF.

BASEBALL

AND I'M ALREADY HERE.

YOU WON'T BE DOING YOURSELF ANY FAVORS IF YOU CHOOSE YOUR COLLEGE TO MATCH ME.

SO...

CLINK

AND CHOSE TO BE THE CATCHER HIMSELF.

HE LET ME BE THE PITCHER.

THEN CAN WE KEEP BEING A MARRIED COUPLE?

THUMP

JANGLE

I'M CHOOSING THE SCHOOL I WANT TO GO TO MYSELF. YOU'RE WORRYING ABOUT NOTHING.

FLASH

IF EVEN AFTER ALL THIS, I FAIL TO GET INTO SJ UNIVERSITY

LISTEN, RITSU.

CLATTER

WHICH PROBLEM ARE YOU ON?

IT'S FINE! WE'LL BE LEAVING SOON ANYWAY SO I'LL ASK AT CRAM SCHOOL

I'LL ONLY BE HOLDING RITSU BACK

I SAY THAT BUT AT THIS RATE...

ME TOO.

I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, YUTA.

YOU'RE RIGHT

THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE TO TRY HARD TO GET INTO S UNIVERSITY

WE'RE ONLY A MARRIED COUPLE IN OUR BATTERY.

WE'RE *FRIENDS*.

PAST EXAM QUESTIONS COLLECTION

BUT YOU HAVE TONS OF PEOPLE YOU CALL FRIENDS.

I'VE NEVER BEFORE HAD TO THINK OF A REASON TO BE WITH YOU, BUT

EVEN IF WE'RE NOT IN A BATTERY ANYMORE, I STILL WANT US TO BE TOGETHER.

BIIIING

WHAT THE HECK!

WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT WANTING TO BE WITH ME WAS A TOTAL LIE!

WHERE DO YOU KEEP RUNNING OFF TO? JUST TELL ME!!

AH!

YUTA, WE GOTTA RUN. IT'S TIME FOR CRAM SCHOOL!

WATCH

CATCH

HUH? HAVE TO GO ON FOOT!

IT STOPPED RAINING I'M TAKING MY BIKE

WAIT FOR ME, RITSUUUU!

RUN!

BUMP

THUD

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT TO CALL OUR RELATIONSHIP GOING FORWARD. BUT

AS LONG AS I'M WITH RITSU, THINGS WILL BE FINE.

HEY LET'S GO OUT TOMORROW ♥

HUG

JUUH. SORRY

I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO DO TOMORROW.

AH YEAH.

YOU THINK I SHOULD CUT IT?

YUTA.

YOUR HAIR'S LONG.

I THINK IT'S FINE IT'S SMOOTH AND SOFT

THEN MAYBE I'LL GROW IT OUT ♪

YOU'VE ALWAYS ROCKED THE MUSHROOM 'DO

I ALWAYS HAVE FUN WHEN I'M WITH RITSU.

HOP

SORRY FOR HAVING SUCH SOFT, SMOOTH HAIR!

RIRI, YOU'RE SO HANDSOME. ♥

RUFFLE

HEY !

AAAH!

JUMP

YOUR MADRE WAS A HAIR-DRESSER!!

KNITTIN

I'M TELLING YOUR MOM.

THAT YOU LAUGHED AT ME AND SAID IT LOOKS LIKE A MUSHROOM.

FRIGGIN' RITSU...

HOOOONK

MIZUHARA

WHY'D HE EVEN SAY "I ALSO WANT US TO BE TOGETHER"?

THE TRAINING CAMP'S THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW.

AND HE'S BAILING ON TODAY'S SHOPPING TRIP.

3rd inning

REPLAY

3rd inning

REPLAY

OH, WELL

I GET TO GO OUT FOR A DRIVE AND HAVE LUNCH TOO.

VROOOOM

AAAWWWW!

COACH! I'M STARVING! LET'S GO EAT FIRST! EAT!!

SIGH

FIRST, WE SHOP. NOW, GET IN!

WALKING WITH A GIRL.

HUH?

IS THAT MASHINO?

RITSU?!

AND SHE LOOKS OLDER THAN HIM. MAYBE SHE GOES TO S UNIVERSITY.

WHAT'S HE DOING HERE...?

I THINK IT'S A GIRL-FRIEND?

SHE'S NOT A STUDENT AT OUR SCHOOL.

WHEN YOU TAKE A LEFT ON THAT MAIN ROAD WE JUST PASSED, THE FRONT GATE'S RIGHT THERE

SHOULD WE SAY H.?

S UNIVERSITY?

SUPERMARKET

DAILY SPECIA

OOOH.

YOUR UNDER-CLASSMAN MUST BE PRETTY LOADED.

SHUT IT.

MY UNDERCLASSMAN WILL BE PROVIDING THE DRINKS.

THAT'S EVERYTH NG WE NEEDED.

THUMP

ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE CATCHER SHIMA?

A FORMER PROFES-SIONAL?!

HE IS A FORMER PROFESSIONAL PLAYER, AFTER AL...

SURE, MAYBE HE'S A LITTLE BETTER OFF THAN ME

THAT'S RIGHT THE VERY ONE.

THOUGH HE HAD TO RETIRE DUE TO AN INJURY

YOUR UNDERCLASS-MAN WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO BE *THE* SHIMA, WOULD IT?!

YOU MEAN THE ONE WHO USED TO PLAY FOR THE EASTERN DRACOS?

AAAAW.

I WISH MASHINO HAD COME TOO!

AWESOME!!

SH MA WAS AWARDED THE GOLDEN GLOVE AWARD AND IS THE MAN WHO LED THE DRACOS INTO THE R GOLDEN AGE!

YOU THINK I CAN GET HIS AUTOGRAPH?

MIZUHARA, CHECK IT OUT

FOR REAL?!

WHEN I TOLD HIM ABOUT HOLDING A TRAINING CAMP, HE WAS THE ONE WHO FOUND THE SITE FOR ME

NOW HE ACTS AS AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR AT A COLLEGE WHILE PROMOTING BASEBALL AMONG THE STUDENTS.

AND YOUR OFFBEAT SLIDER TOO.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF WATCHING PLENTY OF YOUR GAMES, MIZUHARA.

YOUR CONTROL OF THE BALL IS PRETTY OUTSTANDING AND YOUR FASTBALL'S REALLY GOT THE STUFF

MASHINO... WAS HIS NAME, I THINK?

HE'D BE THRILLED TO BE HERE...

THROWING AND CATCHING THAT BALL TAKES SKILL.

USED TO CATCH, SO I'D KNOW.

HE'S THE REAL DEAL.

RITSU USED TO TALK HIGHLY OF HIM AS A GREAT CATCHER TOO.

YOU WERE BLESSED WITH A GREAT CATCHER, MIZUHARA.

...NAH.

ALL THAT STUFF HE SAYS HE HAS TO DO LATELY...

SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS.

GRIP

THAT'S WHY HE'S SO SET ON S UNIVERSITY.

I WISH HE'D JUST TOLD ME HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND...

GRRROWL

OOPS. SORRY.

LET'S GRAB SOMETHING TO EAT BEFORE WE HEAD TO THE LODGE.

OH. THAT'S RIGHT MIZUHARA.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CONTINUING TO PLAY BASEBALL IN COLLEGE?

RITSU...

YES.

"LET'S TAKE HIM OUT IN THREE BALLS."

"THROW THE BALL LIKE YOU MEAN IT."

ANYWAY, CAN WE GET TO THE POINT ALREADY?

WELL, SHUCKS. I'M HONORED YOU'D BE SO HAPPY EVEN THOUGH I'M NOT EVEN ACTIVELY PLAYING ANYMORE

BFFFFT

I'M SORRY

YES

WHAT'S THIS? YOU'RE CRYING?

MIZUHARA, YOU'RE GETTING TOO EMOTIONAL OVER GETTING TO MEET GHIMA

SO WHY DO I FEEL SO SHITTY INSTEAD?

I THOUGHT THAT IF HE HAD A GIRLFRIEND... I WOULD SUPPORT HIM.

BASEBALL'S ALL OVER.

I'M NOT WHAT RITSU NEEDS ANYMORE.

DING DONG

OH!

RIRI!

OH DEAR

SO YUTA HASN'T BEEN GETTING BACK TO YOU?

SINCE THE TRAINING CAMP'S COMING UP, HE'S BEEN FOCUSING ALL HIS ATTENTIONS ON THAT

I'M SORRY HE WORRIED YOU.

HE MISSED CRAM SCHOOL AND ISN'T ANSWERING HIS PHONE.

IS YUTA ALL RIGHT?

IF I ACCEPT HIS RECOMMENDATION...

I CAN GET BACK ON THE MOUND AGAIN.

UNIVERSITY

RITSU'S THE ONLY ONE I CAN THROW THE BALL AT AND MEAN IT

BUT

RITSU.

THAT I WAS ABLE TO BE THE BEST

IT WAS BECAUSE I HAD RITSU.

YOU DONE GETTING READY FOR THE CAMP?

I'M GOING TO START NOW.

YEAH?

WELL, OKAY THEN.

NO, NOTHING.

YOU WENT OUT WITH THE COACH TODAY, RIGHT?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

WERE YOU LOOKING AT THIS AND CRYING?

THAT COULDN'T BE IT COULD IT?

YOUR EYES ARE RED.

IS THIS PHOTO FROM JUNIOR HIGH?

WHY DON'T YOU GO UP AND CHECK ON HIM, SIR.?

I DOUBT HE'S EVEN GOTTEN READY FOR THE TRAINING CAMP.

HE WAS SO EXCITED ABOUT GOING SHOPPING WITH THE COACH TODAY

YUTA, IT'S ME

KNOCK KNOCK

KNOCK

!!

HIT

HIS FAVORITE PHOTO

CRUSH

I'M COMING IN

YO!

STUP

KLATCH

?

YU.

SO IT'S NOT 100%? WHERE'D THE LAST 1% GO?

I CAN SEE THROUGH 99% OF WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.

I KNEW IT

SWAP

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO DECIPHER.

IS THAT ALL OF IT?

WHAT'S THIS?

YOU CAN SEE WHAT IT IS. IT'S INFORMATION ABOUT N UNIVERSITY

WHAT IS IT?

HUH?

WHAT IS THIS?

HEH!

NO.

TCH!

HE'S ALWAYS HAD A WAY OF SEEING RIGHT THROUGH ME WHEN IT COMES TO THESE THINGS.

?

?

WHAT'S WHAT?

IT'S NOT LIKE.

THE COACH IS VOUCHING FOR ME TOO.

WHATEVER COLLEGE I GET INTO HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU ANYWAY.

DO YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?

ROUGHLY.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN GET INTO S UNIVERSITY THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING WITH ME

AND I THINK IT'D BE WISE TO ACCEPT A RECOMMENDATION.

I KNOW THAT.

IS THIS FROM THE COACH?

!!

GRAB

GIVE IT BACK!

HEY! WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT?!

UWAAAAH!

UHH-OH!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE THAT WAY.

AND THAT HE WANTED TO BE WITH ME, SO WHAT THE HELL?

IN THAT CASE..

HE TOLD ME TO WORK HARD TO GET INTO S UNIVERSITY..

I'M.

DIVORCING YOU!

I'LL GO TO N UNIVERSITY AND FIND A NEW HUSBAND!

YOU..

ROTTEN MUSHROOM!!

SLAM

WAIT—

KLATCH

SHOVE

OW!

HAVE FUN IN S UNIVERSITY WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND.

GRAB

WHAT?!

BECAUSE IT HAS A PROGRAM I WANT TO GET INTO.

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? JUST BE STRAIGHT WITH ME.

THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON, IS IT?

WHY DID YOU DECIDE ON S UNIVERSITY, RITSU?

YOU'RE THE ONE NOT BEING STRAIGHT WITH ME!

HIT

AND THEN TELL ME TO GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS HIM?

NO.

JUST FORGET IT. LEAVE.

HOW CAN HE TREAT ME LIKE THIS..

DOES MY REASON FOR CHOOSING S UNIVERSITY...

HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHY YOU WERE CRYING TODAY, YUTA?

I THOUGHT...

THINGS WOULD NEVER CHANGE

GUIDE

YUTA.

YUTA.

MUSH

OOPS.

UNTIL NOW.

SOMETHING PRECIOUS TO ME IS CHANGING.

I SAW YOU WHILE WE WERE OUT SHOPPING.

I'D FELT YOU WERE BEING DISTANT LATELY.

YOU WERE WALKING NEAR A UNIVERSITY TODAY

WHAT GIRL?

WHO...

THE HECK?

NOTHIN...

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A STRANGER WITH ME.

WHY WOULD YOU HIDE THAT FROM ME?

THAT'S—

I'M SORRY
WERE YOU TAKING A BATH?

A CAR...?

I'M TELLING YOU
THERE IS NO GIRLFRIEND.

YOU SAID YOU'D BROUGHT HER, SO.

WHERE'S YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?

WE'LL HAVE A CHAPERONE THOUGH.

RITSU'S MADRE!

HOP ON IN.

HUH?

IT'S THAT CAR.

I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO GO ON LONG DRIVES YET BUT IF WE KEEP IT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...

YUTA.
I'M OUTSIDE YOUR HOUSE RIGHT NOW. COME OUT.

I BROUGHT WITH ME THE REASON I'VE BEEN SO DISTANT

HE BROUGHT HER WITH HIM?

AT THIS HOUR?

I DON'T WANT TO MEET HER, BUT

I WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE MY HEAD N THE TRAINING CAMP IF WE DON'T SETTLE THIS.

KLICK

I'D MISUNDERSTOOD THE WHOLE SITUATION?

RITSU WAS DOING THIS FOR ME.

SHE WORKS SHIFTS SO MEET HER ON OCCASION

THE WOMAN I WAS WITH WAS THE RECEPTIONIST FROM THE DRIVING SCHOOL.

HEY, YUTA.

WERE YOU JEALOUS?

RITSU'S STILL JUST AS SPECIAL TO ME AS HE EVER WAS.

I'D MISS NOT GETTING TO SEE HIM.

SO WHAT IF I WAS!

かあ
BLUSH

I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU UNTIL I HAD MY FULL LICENSE

WHY DID YOU HIDE IT FROM ME?

BUT WHO CARES?

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO COMPARE ME TO THE COACH.

YOU'RE SO LUCKY YOU ALREADY HAVE YOUR PERMIT.

JONATHAN

Jonathan

YOU'RE SO OBSESSED WITH HIM.

IT'S NOT A LECKSUS BUT

SO

YOUR BIRTHDAY'S NEXT MONTH, RIGHT?

SO THAT'S WHY?

YOU NEVER SHUT UP ABOUT GOING OUT ON DRIVES AND HIS CAR AND STUFF

WHA.

WHAT'S THIS FOR, ALL OF A SUDDEN?

YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING THINGS ALL OF A SUDDEN.

THE TRAINING CAMP STARTS SOON, SO DON'T CATCH A COLD.

I'M SORRY. DID I HAVE THE AIR CONDITIONER ON TOO HIGH?

YOU'RE COLD

GRIP

I WON'T

CHILL

WHY IS IT THAT

MY HEART'S BEEN TRYING TO BEAT OUT OF MY CHEST?

I'M SORRY FOR INVITING YOU OUT JUST WHEN YOU'D FINISHED YOUR BATH.

IT'S FINE.

RUB

IT'S FINE.

I'M SORRY, RITSU.

WAS THE ONE WHO MADE IT WORSE

ABOUT EARLIER.

YOU WERE BEING REALLY CUTE TODAY.

I FORGIVE YOU.

POOMF

WHOA!

I'M SO GLAD... IT WAS ALL IN MY HEAD.

ACHOO!

ISN'T THE ONLY THING I CARE ABOUT

GETTING TO PLAY BASEBALL...

YOU'RE ONE OF THE REASONS...

WHY I LOVE BASEBALL AS MUCH AS I DO.

WOULD YOU REALLY BE OKAY WITH THAT?

WELL.

I THINK IT'S A GOOD OFFER.

BY THE WAY.

SHUF

ABOUT THE RECOMMENDATION.

WITH YOUR SKILLS, YOU COULD STILL TRY [redacted] BEING AN ACE IN COLLEGE, YUTA.

GOOD NIGHT

VROOOOM

YOU CAN PLAY YOUR BELOVED BASEBALL IN COLLEGE AGAIN.

IS THAT WHAT YOU MEANT... BY THERE BEING 1% ABOUT ME THAT'S "IMPOSSIBLE TO DECIPHER"?

THIS YEAR'S LODGINGS ARE AMAZING.

LAST YEAR'S PLACE DOESN'T EVEN COMPARE TO THIS ONE.

AH.

YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON THE COACH TO DELIVER! ♥

AND THE VIEW IS SPECTACULAR!

THE AIR CONDITIONER EVEN WORKS! WE'LL BE ABLE TO SLEEP LIKE LOGS THIS YEAR!

WOWWW!

SETTLE DOWN.

SIGH

I'M TALKING ABOUT COACH AGAIN.

LET'S GET READY AND GO. WE'RE HERE TO HELP OUT THIS YEAR.

KINSHOU*

NAME RITSU MASH

FUJIMI 1-

ER 10TH 1

OF

DATE OF BIRTH

2001

DRIVER'S LICENSE

240

ISSUED

TOKYO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

NUMBER: #30

MOTORCYCLE

VEHICLE/MOPED

OTHER

SECOND KIND

*IN SHOGI, THE "GOLD GENERAL"

4th inning

REPLAY

KNEW IT YOU LOOK BEST IN A UNIFORM.

I'LL WHIP THOSE CUTE LITTLE JUNIORS INTO SHAPE!

LEAVE IT TO ME!

OKAY, OKAY

THAT BOTHERED RITSU.

I'M SORT OF SURPRISED...

THANKS.

HOP

RIRI, YOU'RE SO HANDSOME ♥

HOP

I CAN FEEL IT!

BOING

STOP THAT YUTA. YOU'LL BREAK THE BED

HOP

MY HEART'S BEATING LIKE CRAZY!

HOP

IT'S AMAZING RIGHT NOW!

WASN'T RITSU THE ONE BEING JEALOUS?

HAVING FEELINGS OF RIVALRY TOWARD THE COACH...

AND SECRETLY ATTENDING DRIVING SCHOOL SO HE COULD SURPRISE 'ME... I DIDN'T REALIZE HE WAS THE KIND OF GUY TO DO THAT

SHRUG

I'D NEVER SEEN RITSU MAKE A FACE LIKE THAT BEFORE

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT RITSU OUTSIDE, OF HIS CATCHER'S ROLE

EVEN THOUGH WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER SO LONG...

BSSHH

NICE BALL! KEEP THAT UP!

TODAY MARK'S THE START OF THE SUMMER TRAINING CAMP.

IT'S BEEN FOREVER SINCE I LAST SLIPPED MY ARMS THROUGH THE SLEEVES OF MY UNIFORM AND STOOD ON THE FIELD.

THE BLAZING SUN AND THE SMELL OF DIRT

ONE! TWO! THREE! FOUR!

ZSH ZSH

JUST LIKE THIS. THAT'S IT!

NUMBERS ON OUR BACKS ANYMORE THAT MAKES ME SAD.

RITSU AND I DON'T HAVE...

POP

WHAT'S THEY WAY!

WERE YOU JEALOUS?

OKAY!

YAMASHITA, YOU'RE CATCHING!

OKAY!

MIZUHARA! GET IN THE BULLPEN!

CLANG

GET BACK TO PRACTICE!

OH. YOU WANT MY AUTOGRAPH? I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU LATER.

SQUAT

THIS FEELS LIKE THE SELECTION TEST. I'M SO NERVOUS.

SCUFF

I HOPE HE DOES A GOOD JOB CATCHING MY BALLS.

PHEW.

YAMASHITA'S STILL A FIRST-YEAR.

110

PSSHT

OKAY!

LET'S PICK UP THE PACE!

LUCKY

FIDGET

I WANT TO HURRY UP AND PLAY WITH RITSU TOO.

FIDGET

HEY, THERE.

YO. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE FOR US. THE BOYS ARE THRILLED.

MURMUR

THAT I CAN HELP OUT YOUR TEAM, SATOSHI.

I'M GLAD TOO.

MASHINO!

SHOOT I'M GETTING OFF MY GAME TOO

I'VE ONLY GOT TEN BALLS LEFT THOUGH.

!!

POOMF

DROP

SWOOSH

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, YAMASHITA?! GET ON A GRIP ON IT!

YES, SIR!

I'M SORRY!

MY BAD.

BUT HE CAN'T. HE'S PRACTICING WITH THE FIELDERS

I WANT RITSU TO BE THE ONE CATCHING MY BALLS.

WIDEN YOUR STANCE MORE. DON'T KEEP YOUR ARMS SO CLOSE TO YOUR BODY.

KEEP YOUR MITT STI...

WATCH.

RITSU...

I'M SO SORRY!

PSSHT

THAT WAS A NICE BALL!

RITSU'LL ALWAYS BE THE EASIEST TO THROW AT

WILL YOU LET ME CATCH A LITTLE TOO?

SURE!

COMPLIMENT THE PITCHER WHEN HE THROWS A GOOD BALL.

OKAY!

NICE BALL!

BSSHH

NICE BALL ♥

MAKE THE NEXT ONE AN INSIDE HIGH FASTBALL.

NICE.

HA!

I KNEW RITSU WAS THE BEST!

YEAH!

BSSHH

OOOH! THAT'S THE STUFF

DID YOU SEE HIS FACE JUST NOW?

TO MAKE THE PITCHER LOOK LIKE THAT..

MEANS THAT CATCHER'S REALLY GREAT RIGHT, SATOSHI?

NICE BALL.

UH-HUH.

GOOD WORK.

SQUEAK

CHIRP CHIRP CHIRP

GOOD WORK TODAY!

CHIRP CHIRP CHIRP

PHEW, THAT WAS MY FIRST GOOD SWEAT IN A WHILE.

BUT I MADE YAMASHITA HAVE TO GET A WHOLE BUNCH OF PEP TALKS FROM THE COACH.

AND WITH SHIMA HERE TODAY, I WAS SO NERVOUS.

I'M GONNA GO ON AHEAD

YOU'RE LUCKY SHIMA WAS ABLE TO CATCH FOR YOU.

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, YUTA

IT'S THE CATCHER'S DUTY TO HELP THE PITCHER THROW GOOD BALLS.

SHIMA COMPLIMENTED ME ON IT.

DID RITSU SEE THAT BALL JUST NOW?

WOW! JUST AS I'D EXPECT FROM SHIMA!

WHY DO I STILL FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING BETWEEN US?

THE MISUNDERSTANDING'S ALREADY BEEN CLEARED UP.

OH. THANKS

HOW ABOUT I CUT THEM FOR YOU?

HEY, WAIT!

HOLD UP, RITSU.

RUB

RUB

AND EARLIER...

I'M SO HAPPY I GOT TO PLAY BASEBALL WITH RITSU AGAIN.

AREN'T THOSE BANGS GETTING IN THE WAY?

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT

I SHOULD'VE CUT THEM BEFORE I CAME TO THE TRAINING CAMP.

HEY, WHY DON'T YOU PLAY BASEBALL AT N UNIVERSITY TOO, RITSU?

FORM A BATTERY WITH ME—

LIFT YOUR CHIN.

HOLD YOUR HEAD STRAIGHT

CLOSE YOUR EYES.

MM

YEAH, RIGHT

GOOD FOR YOU...

DON'T WORRY. I'M SO GOOD-LOOKING, I CAN MAKE ANYTHING WORK

I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT THIS.

SHIP

FLUTTER

HOW'D THINGS GO WITH THE RECOMMENDATION?

YEAH?

GOOD FOR YOU.

SHIMA'S INSISTING HE'D LOVE TO DO IT FOR ME.

SHIMA.

I LIKE YOU AS MY CATCHER.

THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS I PLAY BALL IN THE FIRST PLACE. IS THAT WEIRD?

WAS COMMENDING YOU FOR BEING A GOOD CATCHER

IT'S NOT LIKE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, WHERE YOU PICK YOUR TEAM

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO...

BE WITH ME, RITSU.

I DID.

...!

I WANT TO FORM ANOTHER BATTERY WITH YOU, RITSU.

IF WE HADN'T LOST THE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT THAT WAY...

I'M FINE.

I ALREADY DECIDED TO RETIRE FROM THE SPORT IN HIGH SCHOOL.

I THOUGHT THAT AT FIRST TOO.

BFPT!

!!!

IF THERE'S A CHANCE WE CAN HAVE OUR REVENGE IN COLLEGE...

YOU IDIOT! CLOSE YOUR MOUTH!

I GOT HAIR IN MY MOUTH!

BEH! BEH!

IF WE CAN AIM FOR THAT, THEN I WANT IT TO BE WITH RITSU.

HERE, LET ME GET YOUR FACE.

...!

THERE'LL BE A CATCHER OUT THERE WHO CAN ENABLE YOU TO THROW EVEN BETTER BALLS, YUTA.

LIKE SHIMA.

ONCE YOU GET TO COLLEGE...

THEN WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER.

TO HAVE COME THIS FAR... AND PLAY BASEBALL WITHOUT RITSU?

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT.

I LOVE YOU TOO, RITSU.

I WOULDN'T SAY THIS, BUT IF I LOVED ONLY BASEBALL...

YOU AND I HAVE LIVED OUR WHOLE LIVES CENTERED AROUND BASEBALL.

AND THERE'S SOME UNDER YOUR NOSE

YOU GOT SOME ON YOUR MOUTH.

THAT'S WHY IF WE GOT NTO COLLEGE. THOUGHT YOU AND I.

COULD ENJOY A NORMAL LIFE AS COLLEGE STUDENTS.

IF YOU'VE CAUGHT SHIMA'S EYE. THEN I'LL STAY OUT OF IT

YOU REALLY LOVE YOUR BASEBALL.

SO YOU SHOULD CONTINUE WITH IT

BUT I GUESS TH NGS WON'T GO AS PLANNED.

GOING FORWARD...

KNOCK KNOCK

WHO'S THAT?

ONCE AGAIN...

SIGH

I UNDERSTAND MYSELF LEAST OF ALL

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

YOU DON'T NEED ME TO SAY IT.

TO KNOW, RITSU.

HE KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT ME.

SO THEN...

WHAT IS IT I WANT TO DO?

5th inning
·REPLAY·

LOOKING AT THOSE TWO REMINDS ME OF HOW WE USED TO BE
RURUYA
& SHIMA

WE COULD BE THE FIRST ONES ON IT!

BUZZZZ

THIS ISN'T ALL THAT DIFFERENT FROM THE LODGE LAST YEAR.

OOH! WE'RE SO CLOSE TO THE FIELD!

RATTLE

BRICK

I THINK THIS IS A TIN ROOF.

IT'S MADE OF WOOD? IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE, BUT

ABOUT WHAT I SAID BEFORE.

I WONDER WHAT RITSU THINKS...

I'M SO SORRY, MIZUHARA, MASHINO.

IT'S TOTALLY FINE!

YOU REST UP.

GET BETTER SOON.

WILL

THANK GOODNESS WE GOT OUT OF THAT

I'M SORRY FOR HAVING TO MAKE YOU GUYS MOVE OUT TO THE OLD WING.

IT'S AN OLD BUILDING... BUT YOU CAN STILL USE THE AIR CONDITIONER.

WE'RE WAKING UP AT 4 A.M. FOR MORNING PRACTICE TOMORROW.

WE'LL HAVE A PRACTICE MATCH IN THE AFTERNOON, SO HURRY UP AND GET SOME SLEEP.

FOR REAL?!

AGAINST WHO?!

THE SEMI-REGULARS AT N UNIVERSITY

DON'T MAKE IT TOO COLD, OR YOU'LL BE STIFF TOMORROW.

IT'S OKAY, I PUT A TIMER ON.

I'LL TURN THE A.R. CONDITIONER ON FULL BLAST

I DO LOVE RITSU, SO WHAT I SAID WAS THE TRUTH.

BUT IT'S STILL HOT AS HECK.

IF ANYTHING COMES UP CALL ME ON MY CELL

WILL DO.

A NORMAL LIFE AS COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH RITSU.

THAT'S WHAT RITSU HAD HAD IN MIND.

NOW OF ALL TIMES...

CREAK

CLUNK

CREEEAK

ZSSH

THOSE LEAVES THERE ARE MOVING DIFFERENTLY FROM ALL THE REST.

UH-OH. THIS IS REALLY BAD. SOMETHING'S OUT THERE. I KNOW IT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S SOUND ASLEEP

RAYLA'S UNDER HIS COVERS NOW WOULD BE WRONG

TWIST

EVEN THOUGH HE SAID HE WANTED TO STAY WITH ME...

I WAS ONLY THINKING OF MYSELF.

I'M SORRY, RITSU.

MM.

BLINK

IT'S THE WIND JUST THE WIND. THE BUILDING'S OLD.

AND YOU KNOW, MINE WOULD GET SUCKED OUT TOO.

CREAK

CREAK

WHAT A PAIN IN THE BUTT.

I THINK MAYBE YOU COULD STAND TO HAVE A LITTLE SUCKED OUT OF YOU, YUTA.

THUD.

HMPH!

CREAK

HUHP

WE HAVE AN EARLY MORNING TOMOR-ROW, SO GET TO BLEEP.

COME ON.

TOLD YOU IT WAS THE WIND. NOW IT'S RAINING.

RAIN?!

SSSHHH

HE'S RIGHT I HEAR RAIN.

GYAAAAAAH!

PHAP

LOOM

SORRY.

AWW. SHEESH. YOU SCARED ME!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT!

YOU TRAITOR!

I'VE GOT A BAD VIBE ABOUT THAT TREE.

IF I FALL ASLEEP, I JUST KNOW IT'S GOING TO SUCK OUT MY SOUL.

CREEEEAK

OH.
SHUT UP.

SSSHHH

WE HAVE TO USE SOMETHING TO AT LEAST KEEP THE RAIN OFF THE PITCHER'S MOUND AND HOME BASE.

THERE ARE RAKES, BUT DID YOU SEE ANY TARPS?

SPLASH

GOT IT!

PWAP

YUTA, GRAB THAT END.

COME ON, SLOW POKE RUN! PICK UP THE PACE!

YOU'D BETTER NOT STAY THERE UNTIL MORNING

WEEEE!

UH-OH!

TOMORROW'S MATCH!

SSSHHH

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MADE ME A PITCHER.

I'M GOING TO PUT AWAY THE RAKES.

I THOUGHT SOMETHING PRECIOUS TO ME WAS CHANGING... BUT IN REALITY...

RITSU.

ON SECOND THOUGHT.

I'M GOING TO HANG UP MY UNIFORM WITH YOU.

ARE YOU GOING TO TURN DOWN THE RECOM-MENDATION?

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO BE HAPPY WITH JUST THAT?

I THINK HAVING A NORMAL COLLEGE STUDENT LIFE SOUNDS FUN.

YEAH

THINK IT'LL BE FUN.

NO.

"JUST THAT"? DID YOU NOT MEAN IT WHEN YOU SAID IT?

カ!! CLATTER

WAH!

ゴ!! THUNK

ゴッ THUD

カタ!! RATTLE

バシャ SPLASH

バシャ SPLASH

JIH-OH! MY PANTS ARE FALLING OFF!

バシャ SPLASH

バシャ SPLASH

WE'LL PROBABLY END IT WITH THE MORNING'S GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

DRAG

THUD

DANG, THAT'S A LOT OF RAIN!

I WONDER IF TOMORROW'S MATCH CAN EVEN HAPPEN.

I THINK I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU. APART FROM BASEBALL.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO CHOOSE BASEBALL

I'LL HAVE FUN WHEREVER I AM, AS LONG AS RITSU'S THERE.

I...

YUTA.

YOU'RE STILL SUCH A SCAREDY CAT, YUTA.

WHAT I HATE ARE GHOST STORIES AND HORROR.

RIGHT NOW'S DIFFER-ENT

YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS IS THE KIND OF PLACE THAT GETS HAUNTED.

I THINK SO.

THAT SCARED ME.

DID SOMETHING FALL?

CLATTER

EEK!!

JUST KIDDING.

COME ON, DON'T DO THAT TO ME!

...

I LOVE YOU, YUTA

THAT'S THE WORD FOR IT.

"LOVE."

THAT'S WHY IT DIDN'T FEEL QUITE RIGHT WHEN HE SAID WE WERE "FRIENDS."

I WASN'T PLANNING ON TELLING YOU YET

WOBBLE

PULL

WHOA!

CLANG

CRASH

BANG

OW.

I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE

DID YOU HIT YOURSELF SOMEWHERE?

ARE YOU OKAY, RITSU?!

OF COURSE I'M NOT OKAY.

P

SO.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ALL THIS?

WHY DID YOU KEEP CALLING US FRIENDS BEFORE?

LISTEN, RITSU.

FLAP

BATTLE

IT'S ONLY DRIZZLING. LET'S HEAD BACK.

LOVERS?

HMPH.

WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO SAY?

THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.

MY ANSWER'S THE SAME.

WHAT'RE YOU SO PISSED ABOUT, RIRI?

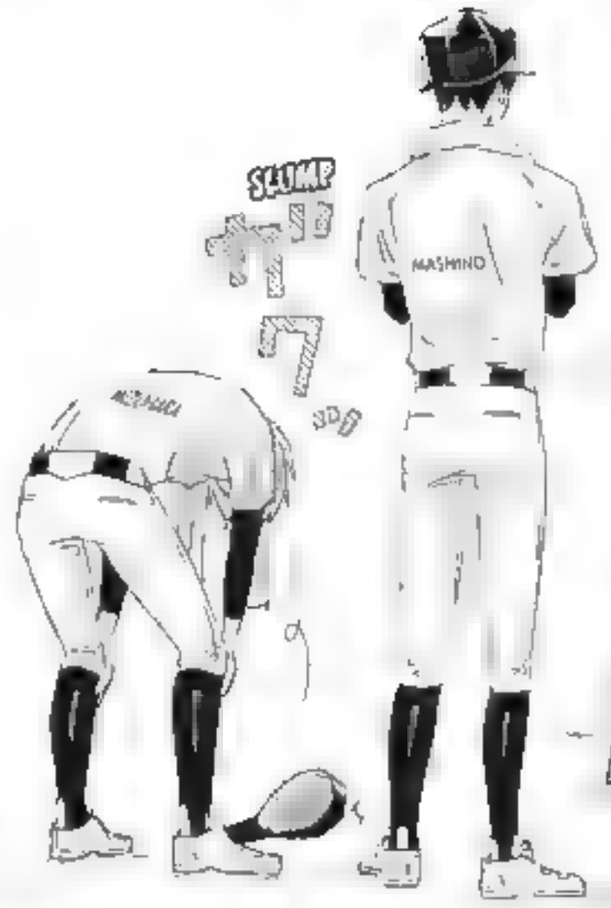
WANTED TO RESET THINGS.

IF I'D STUCK WITH THE OLD "MARRIED COUPLE".

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D EVER REALIZE HOW I REALLY FELT

6th inning

REPLAY



I LOVE YOU, YUTA.

RITSU CONFESSED HIS LOVE FOR ME

WE'RE NOT FRIENDS OR A MARRIED COUPLE

IT'S NOT ABOUT GETTING TO PLAY BASEBALL OR NOT

A REASON FOR ME AND RITSU TO STAY TOGETHER THAT'S WHAT I WANTED.

I KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THOSE FEELINGS MEANT

EVER SINCE RETIRING, THERE HAVE BEEN THESE LINGERING, UNFULFILLED FEELINGS.

BUT, I CHOSE THIS PATH FOR MYSELF

RATTLE

I JUST TURNED DOWN THE RECOMMENDATION AND NOW MY GRADES HAVE PLATEAUED.

LET'S GO.

SCUFF

GYAAH?!

IT'S JUST A CAT

RUSTLE

ME-OOOW

DON'T GET SO DOWN ABOUT IT

YOU ONLY JUST RECENTLY STARTED STUDYING SERIOUSLY

SQUEAK

CREAK

YOU'RE RIGHT

WAIT.

NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO BE SAYING THAT.

I'VE GOT TO BE HONEST WITH YOU. WITH THESE MARKS, IT MIGHT NOT BE EASY FOR YOU TO GET INTO A UNIVERSITY.

MIZUHARA, LISTEN.

YOU'RE RIGHT

S UNIVERSITY

JAPANESE HISTORY

COMPREHENSION

YEAH.

HAAH.

THUD

YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER CHOOSING ANOTHER SCHOOL.

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'LL BE CONTINUING WITH BASEBALL.

I UNDERSTAND YOU WANT TO GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS MASHINO, BUT

YO.

MORNING, MIZUHARA.

MORNING!

MORNING!

BUT COMPARED TO BEFORE WE STARTED GOING OUT...

I'M...

LET'S GO.

A CAT...

YOU'RE TOO JUMPY

WE'RE NOTHING COMPARED TO YOU GUYS. THE ETERNAL MARRIED COUPLE ♥

QUIT MAKING A DISPLAY OF YOURSELF FIRST TH NG N THE MORNING.

RITSU AND I ARE SUPPOSED TO BE GOING OUT

YOU CAN BE YOUR USUAL SELF, YOU KNOW

DON'T YOU HAVE A COMEBACK FOR THAT?

RIGHT...

SEE YA

BUT BESIDES THAT, NOTHING'S DIFFERENT

SOMETIMES... HE KISSES ME.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE STUDYING.

MASHINO, YOU'RE HERE

EXPLAIN THIS MATH TO ME.

BY THE WAY, YUTA CLEAR YOUR SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY

I NEVER HAVE PLANS.

HE'S NEVER BEEN ONE TO SHOW HIS FEELINGS ON HIS FACE.

RITSU'S LUCKY.

WHAT EVEN IS MY USUAL SELF?

AND ANYWAY...

GOOD MORNING.

HE SAYS BE MY USUAL SELF, BUT...

PFFT!

I CAN'T DO THAT

I'M TRYING.

I STARTED HAVING FEELINGS FOR YOU.

THAT'S WHEN IT STARTED.

THE SPRING OF OUR SECOND YEAR, AFTER THE COACH CAME ONTO OUR TEAM.

WE CAN'T GO BACK TO HOW WE USED TO BE.

YOU'VE GOT CLASS GET IN YOUR SEAT

DAAAANG

DUNNG

I DON'T THINK I'M ANY DIFFERENT.. FROM USUAL!

DOOOONG

TESSE!

DOOOONG

WHAT IS MY

YOU. THINK SO?

USUAL SELF AGAIN?

THIS IS FOR YOU.

IT'S JUST A SAMPLE I'D GOTTEN.

COACH

GOOD MORNING TO YOU.

YOUR BIRTHDAY'S COM NG UP, RIGHT?

THANKS! A SAMPLE!

THAT'S MY COACH!

DUM DA-DUM

HUP!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MEEE

DA DA-DUM DA

WOOOOO

DA DEE ♪

DA DA-DUM DAA ♫

WHY DO YOU SEEM DIFFERENT?

IS IT BECAUSE YOU'VE RETIRED FROM BASEBALL?

HUH?

OH, YEAH

SATURDAY'S MY BIRTHDAY

HE SEEMS SO GROWN-UP TODAY

HIS DRIVING'S GOTTEN BETTER SINCE LAST TIME

MAP

WHY'RE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT?

DOESN'T WEAR WORKOUT CLOTHES.

I GUESS THE USUAL ME...

THIS WAS THE MOST "USUAL ME" I COULD THINK OF

VRRRRRRRR

HMP

KRO SQUIRCH

THIS IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF RITSU'S (IN-CONSIDERATE) KINDNESS.

MATH

KNOW I'M GETTING MIDDLING GRADES. BUT STILL

MATH

WE'RE AT THE LIBRARY FOR MY BIRTHDAY?

PAL LIBRARY

IN THE END, I SPENT MY BIRTHDAY LIKE ANY OTHER USUAL DAY

ONCE YOU'RE DONE EATING, WE'RE STUDYING

I BOUGHT YOU A CAKE, YOU KNOW.

IT'S NOT THAT

WE WENT TO THE LIBRARY AND DEPARTMENT STORE.

I THOUGHT TODAY YOU'D TAKE ME OUT IN YOUR CAR

I WANT TO PLAY BASEBALL.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR REFERENCE BOOKS LIKE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO?

TWO BALLS + TWO STRIKES = TWO OUTS?

FLAP

MATH

I WAS ABLE TO ACT MUCH MORE NORMAL THAN I AM NOW.

I LIKED IT MORE WHEN WE WERE A MARRIED COUPLE

IF BEING OUR USUAL SELVES IS WHAT YOU WANT THEN WHAT'S THE POINT IN EVEN GOING OUT?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT PEOPLE IN A RELATIONSHIP ARE SUPPOSED TO DO.

HOW COULD I FORGET?

WHAT?

UH.

LISTEN

YOU DO REALIZE TODAY'S MY BIRTHDAY, RIGHT?

I KNEW WE'D BE ALONE LIKE THIS

SO ALL I'VE DONE IS MAKE IT HARDER TO HOLD BACK.

I MEAN!

I REALLY MESSED UP. CONFESSING MY LOVE TO YOU BEFORE YOU TAKE YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS.

TO HOLD BACK...?

I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD YOU MY FEELINGS.

SIGH

WHY ARE YOU RESTRAINING YOURSELF?

IT MAKES SENSE, YUTA.

UNLIKE ME, YOU WEREN'T THINKING ABOUT ANY OF THAT STUFF.

YOU DO REALIZE...

WHAT EXACTLY IT IS I'M RESTRAINING MYSELF FROM, RIGHT?

!

PULL

HUH?

GULP

SO I DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK THEN?

I KNOW WHAT "THINGS" ARE.

ALL MEN DO.

DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME!

!

IT FIGURES...

EVEN GAY COUPLES DO THAT TOO.

SELECT "I'll go"

YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO ASK THAT?

I'M TALKING ABOUT DOING "THINGS."

WAS THINKING AHEAD.

RITSU

IT'S NOT EASY TO BRING UP.

I CAN'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IF YOU DON'T TELL ME!

DON'T BE RESERVED WITH ME RITSU!

SEE

I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE

WHO COULDN'T PULL OFF ACTING LIKE MY USUAL SELF.

WE CAN'T DO THIS.

TWITCH

I DON'T WANT TO RUSH THINGS AND ONLY DO THEM HALFWAY

NEITHER OF US HAVE THE EMOTIONAL SPACE FOR THIS RIGHT NOW.

BUT BOTH COLLEGE AND YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO ME.

AND NOW THIS RELATIONSHIP IS WORRYING YOU.

MY CONFESSION TO YOU WAS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE.

BOTH NEED TO PAN OUT WELL. THAT'S WHY I'M RESTRAINING MYSELF

YOU DIDN'T DO WELL ON YOUR LATEST MOCK EXAM.

CLATTER

HEY!

THUD

RI—

WHOA!

WHA ?

NGH. !

CLUNK

MM!

RITSU—

THUD

I DIDN'T KNOW... THAT SIDE OF RITSU.

BACK THEN...

I DIDN'T KNOW HOW I SHOULD REACT

RIGHT NOW...

YOU GETTING INTO A PASSING RANGE IS MY PRIORITY.

WE'LL THINK ABOUT WHAT COMES NEXT AFTER THAT

RIGHT NOW, HE'S WAITING SO THAT.

AND SO THAT I CAN FOCUS ON PASSING MY TESTS.

I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE ON MY PLATE...

LET'S GO SHOPPING!

SO THERE'S ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO.

Last inning

REPLAY

GUESS THAT SLOW STARTER'S ENG NE FINALLY KICKED 'N

AH

1523
1524
1540
1548
1550
1553
156F

3.

IT'S THERE!

FACULTY OF INFORMATICS

1553!!

! DID IT!! RITSU!!

GRAB

HOW'S IT LOOK?

IS IT THERE? IS IT NOT?

MURMUR

MURMUR

ASSING TEST SC

FEBRUARY

HEAVE-HO!

HEAVE-HO!

AH, YEAH!

YAAAY

WOOOOT!

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

MASHINO TOO, TAKE IT?

YEAH? THAT'S GREAT!

YEP!!

I'VE BEEN ACCEPTED INTO S UNIVERSITY!

HELLO, COACH? IT'S ME, MIZUHARA!

CONGRATU LATIONS!

THANK YOU!

I'LL LET SHIMA KNOW TOO.

OKAY!

MY NUMBER WAS ON THE BOARD.

YEP.

HE PASSED.

MM.

YUTA TOO.

I GOT INTO S UNIVERSITY!!!

MY NUMBER'S THERE! I MADE IT!!

RITSU!!

YEAH!

CONGRATULATIONS.

ALL THAT HARD WORK PAID OFF.

FLASH

OKAY.

I'LL REPORT TO THE SCHOOL ABOUT IT TOMORROW.

YEAH. THAT'S THE PLAN.

FLASH

1553

FLASH

FLASH

FLASH

WE'D BETTER GET GOING.

WHAT IS IT?

YUTA.

RITSU AND I ARE GOING TO THE SAME COLLEGE!

I'M SO HAPPY.

FOLLOW ME

?

RITSU

HOME'S THIS WAY

I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT

AS LONG AS YOU DIDN'T FILL IT OUT WRONG.

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT

WHAT THE HECK, I PASSED BY MY OWN MERITS!

HUH?!

YOU..

YOU'RE LIVING ON YOUR OWN?

KLATCH

THIS IS YOUR KEY.

IT'S NOT ON MY OWN.

ALREADY GOT YOUR MOM TO AGREE.

I DIDN'T WANT TO PUT ANY MORE UNDUE STRESS ON YOU UNTIL YOU WERE DONE WITH YOUR EXAMS.

SORRY FOR PICKING THE PLACE WITHOUT GETTING YOUR INPUT

カリ KATTLE

WAS IT HARD FINDING A PLACE

WITH SUCH A GREAT VIEW?

WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO DO IF I'D FAILED TO GET IN?

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE HAD THIS SURPRISE READY FOR ME.

YOU REALLY ARE SO SELFISH.

WHILE ALL I DO IS CAUSE RITSU TO WORRY.

BUT YOU GOT IN.

RITSU?!

H-HOLD ON.

WE STILL DON'T HAVE ANY CURTAINS UP.

THUD

HUH?

CURTAINS?

WE'RE ON A HILL. WHAT'RE YOU WORRIED ABOUT?

SLIP

WE'LL GO BUY SOME NEXT TIME

AND BRING YOUR THINGS SO WE CAN START OUR LIFE HERE RIGHT AWAY

SLIP

SWAP

THAT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU KISSED ME.

WAS IT WEIRD?

NOT AT ALL.

MM!

CREAK

IF YOU SHOWER, YOU'LL WASH AWAY YOUR SCENT.

I DON'T MIND THAT

BUT I WAS SO EXCITED TODAY. I'M SUPER SWEATY.

I SOUND LIKE A GIRL.

BADUMP

WE'VE SEEN EACH OTHER NAKED PLENTY OF TIMES.

I'M AT A COMPLETE LOSS. DON'T LAUGH AT ME FOR BEING AWKWARD!

AAAALIGH! DON'T SAY SUCH EMBARRASSING THINGS!

AH! RIGHT!

ANSWERED WITHOUT THINKING.

THE EXAMS ARE SAFELY BEHIND US.

SO NOW'S A GOOD TIME.

OH, COME OOOOON!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT EVERY LITTLE THING.

WE'LL REMEMBER THIS FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES.

YOU CAN SHOWER AFTER.

UM! FIRST

CAN I USE THE SHOWER HERE?

BADUMP

BADUMP

BADUMP

WHEN HE SAYS "NOW'S A GOOD TIME", HE MEANS TO CONTINUE WHAT WE STARTED THE OTHER DAY

NN.

HFF

SHIVER

!

YUTA.

DON'T SMOTHER YOUR VOICE

HAAH!

TWITCH

AH!

AH!

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I'LL EVER SAY THESE THINGS TO, YUTA.

MM!

!

CREAK

MM.

!

SMOOCH

CREAK

CREAK

BE-NG ABLE TO SHARE 'N THAT IS WHAT LOVERS DO.

I'M THE ONE IN AN EMBARRASSING POSITION HERE

AH!

HAH

HAAH

HIS FACE IS SO FAMILIAR

AND HIS VOICE IS FAMILIAR.

AND YET...

HAAH

YOUR VOICE.

POOMF

OW!

AWWW. YOU'RE SO CUTE SO CUTE.

IS EVEN CUTER THAN IMAGINED.

AH!

CREAK

HAAH!

RITSU...

AH!

AH!

THAT FEELS.

WEIRD

AH!

CREAK

SQUEEZE

IT'S FINE

JUST LIKE THAT.

HAH!

SHUCK

SHUCK

CREAK

CREAK

FROM HERE ON OUT, IT'LL BE COMPLETELY NEW TERRITORY.

TWITCH
AH!
HAH!
HAH!
PRESS
SLIP
PRESS
AH..!
HAH!
PRESS
SHTICK
HAH!
CREAK
AH..!
SHLIP
AH!
AH. AH!
NGH..!
CREAK
RITSU!
TWITCH
AH!
SHUCK
SHUCK
CREAK
GO INSIDE YOU NOW.
AH!
YUTA... I'M GOING TO.
SHUCK

HAAH

AH..!

HAH!

CREAK

DOES IT HURT?

AH!

ROCK

ROCK

PRESS

TWITCH

YUTA..

CREAK

NN!

EXHALE

CREAK

GRIP

CAN YOU RELAX YOUR MUSCLES?

HAAH

I'M OKAY

AAH

HAH

YOU HAVE TO GO HOME TODAY

NO

ZIH

WE NEED TO GET UP SOON

JUSTA

SMOKE

TO SMOKE

JUSTICE

TH THURSDAY

BONK

HEH! KNEW IT!

PIPE DOWN.

CRUSH

JEALOUSY?!

AW, COME ON.

GET OFFA ME.

GIRI, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE FOR ME.

THAT WASN'T YOUR FAULT. IT'S, YOU KNOW...

JEALOUSY.

I WILL!

COME VISIT US ON THE FIELD FROM TIME TO TIME.

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK IN COLLEGE.

TEACHER! LET'S TAKE A PHOTO!

CONGRATULATIONS ON GRADUATING

THANK YOU FOR TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF US.

32ND GRADUATION CEREMONY

TODAY, WE'RE SAYING GOODBYE TO THIS PLACE.

YOU THINK I'VE GOTTEN OVER MY OBSESSION WITH THE COACH NOW?

WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, RI'SU.

IT WAS JUST ABOUT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

THIRD GRADE. YOU'VE GROWN SO BIG, RIRI.

BEFORE WE MOVED UP INTO THIRD GRADE

PAMF

PAMF

NICE BALL!

YUTA

LET'S GO PLAY CATCH ONE LAST TIME AS HIGH SCHOOLERS.

HA HA HA!

AND YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL, YUTA.

NOW, LET'S...

RITSUUUUU!

HERE IT COOOOOMES!

BUT THE GUY I WANT TO BE WITH WILL NEVER CHANGE.

TEN YEARS AGO, I MET RITSU ON THIS RIVERBANK, WHERE EVERYTHING BEGAN.

PAMF

THE SCENERY'S CHANGED CONSIDERABLY...

SINCE BACK THEN.

SEWING KIT

I FOUND IT, RITSU.

AH!

IT'LL BE FINE.

IT'S A LITTLE SMALL THOUGH.

Extra inning

REPLAY

COLLEGE HAS BEGUN AND MY NEW LIFE WITH YUTA IS GOING GREAT.

THAT'S ONE LESS WORRY.

...

PAT

OOH.

THANK YOU!

BUT THIS TIME, YOU'LL BE THE ONE SEWING IT ON. ♡

YOUR MADRE WAS ALWAYS THE ONE TO SEW MY NUMBER ON MY BACK.

YOU CAN AT LEAST SEW THAT MUCH YOURSELF.

ON OUR DAYS OFF, WE'VE TAKEN TO PLAYING SANDLOT BASEBALL.

...REPLAY IT ALL OVER AGAIN.

PAMF

END

WHY DON'T WE DO IT LIKE THIS?

CREAK

I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST TEASING, BUT LATELY...

MM.

SUCK

YUTA'S STARTED TAKING THE INITIATIVE MORE.

IF YOU KEEP THAT UP, I'M GONNA...

YOU SHOULD TRY YOURS ON TOO. YOU HAVEN'T WORKED OUT IN A WHILE, SO YOU MIGHT HAVE PUT ON WEIGHT.

PRACTICE ISN'T UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

YOU'RE JUMPING THE GUN.

HOW DO I LOOK, RIRI?

HOURS EARLIER

MIZUHARA

YEAH, I THINK I'VE LOST MUSCLE MASS.

MASHIMO

HUH? ARE YOU EVEN THINNER THAN BEFORE?

I'M FINE.

SNF

HERE YOU GO, PARTNER.

THEN YOU HAVE TO GET BACK IN SHAPE.

WHUMP

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE MESSING WITH IT.

IS IT JUST ME OR IS IT STICKING OUT?

COME ON.

MOOSH

SQUEEZE

EH HEH!

IT HASN'T.

NOW, NOW. YOU'VE BEEN WORKING THIS PART OUT SO MUCH, IT MAY HAVE INCREASED IN SIZE.

1

AH!

I- I'M GONNA...!

RITSU...

CREAK

GO AHEAD, THEN. C'MON...

AH...!

SHLAP

THRUST

SHLAP

CREAK

AH!

HAAH!

RI...

...!

AH...!

AH!

HAAH!

CREAK

MIZUHARA

AH...!

HAAH!

M-ME TOO... I'M—

NN...!

SHLAP

HAAH!

HAH!

GO AHEAD THEN. COME.

THAT FACE ISN'T FAIR.

I WANNA... COME INSIDE YOU...

A YEAR AGO, THIS WOULD HAVE ALL BEEN JUST A FANTASY.

AH!

CREAK

AH!

CREAK

NN!

SHLICK

ROCK

SHLICK

SHLICK

RITSU...

AH!

SHLICK

AH!

HAH!

CREAK

AH!

ROCK

HAH!

HAAH!

REPLAY

RIP
YU... TA...!
AH!
RRRIP
SHLAP
AAUH!
HAH!
CREAK
NN!
AH!
CREAK
CREAK
JOLT
!
AAH...!
1
YUTA, DON'T GET IN MY WAY.
BUT...
...
SLIP
I NEVER THOUGHT A UNIFORM COULD BE USED THIS WAY TOO.
...GOOD IDEA.
CAN WE DO IT WITH OUR UNIFORMS ON AGAIN?
I THINK I'M GOING TO REMEMBER THIS EVERY TIME I PUT IT ON.
MY NEW LIFE WITH YUTA'S GOING WELL.
WE'VE STARTED PLAYING SANDLOT BASEBALL.
I'M NOT IN YOUR WAY. ♡